

Inventory of the

DeKalb County Fine Arts Association
DeKalb, Illinois

Collection

In the
Regional History Center

RC 205

INTRODUCTION

Sarah Marie Davis, former librarian at Northern Illinois University, donated the DeKalb County Fine Arts Association Collection to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center on September 20, 1991. Previous records were donated through the auspices of Ralph Bowen, Professor of History at Northern Illinois University.

Property rights in the collection are held by the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: .25
 Number of containers: 1
 Northern Illinois Regional History Center
 Collection 205

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The DeKalb County Fine Arts Association Collection dates from 1961 to 1979 and consists of by-laws, correspondence, and meeting minutes. The majority of the collection documents the involvement of the Association in the creation of the Ellwood House as a museum. The collection is by no means complete but will give the researcher background information regarding the formation of the Ellwood House as well as other activities of the Association.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The DeKalb County Fine Arts Association's purpose was to promote the fine arts in DeKalb County; to assist in making available to all citizens of DeKalb County additional opportunities for the cultivation and enjoyment of the arts; to support worthy programs of other organizations and functions; and, in general, to contribute in every practicable way to the furtherance and appreciation of the arts.

The Fine Arts Association was instrumental in the formation of the Ellwood House as a museum. In November 1964, the Ellwood House was deeded to the DeKalb Park District. On July 1, 1965, the actual transfer of the property from the Ellwood Family to the DeKalb Park District Board took place. The DeKalb County Fine Arts Association Board and the DeKalb Park District Board signed an agreement on September 2, 1965, leaving the Ellwood House residence to the Association for ten years for use as a museum.

The Association worked with the Ellwood House Board until October 3, 1967, when it was voted unanimously to permit the separation of the Board from the Association. Not until August 21, 1969, were legal papers signed that transferred the lease of the Ellwood House from the DeKalb County Fine Arts Association to the Ellwood House Board.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

DeKalb County
 DeKalb County Fine Arts Association
 Ellwood House

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	1	By-laws, 1964-1965
	2	Not-for-profit application, 1965, 1979
	3	Membership, 1964
	4	Donors, 1965-1966
	5	Minutes, (1962-1978)
	6	Correspondence, 1961-1966
	7	Correspondence-FCC, 1961-1965
	8	Correspondence-WLBK, 1961-1964
	9	WLBK Agreement, 1962
	10	FM Article, 1962
	11	Press Releases and Advertisements, 1962 Ellwood House:
	12	Chronology, 1964-1969
	13	By-laws, 1967-1969, n.d.
	14	Meeting Minutes, (1965-1969)
	15	Correspondence, 1954-1965
	16	Resolutions, 1965
	17	Agreement, 1965
	18	Last Will and Testament of Isaac L. Ellwood
Oversize Drawer 20, Folder 15		Ellwood House and Grounds, Topographical Map, 1968